INSTRUCTION

Highly Capable Programs

In order to develop the special abilities of each student, the district will offer a highly capable program that provides kindergarten through twelfth grade students who are selected for the program with access to basic education programs that accelerate learning and enhance instruction. The framework for such programs shall encompass, but not be limited to, the following objectives:

A) Expansion of academic attainments and intellectual skills;
B) Stimulation of intellectual curiosity, independence, and responsibility;
C) Development of a positive attitude toward self and others; and
D) Development of originality and creativity.

The Board will annually approve the District's highly capable plan including the number of students served by grade level; the District's plan to identify students; a description of the program services and goals; instructional program description; a description of on-going professional development of highly capable and general education staff; program evaluation and fiscal report; and assurances that the district is legally compliant.

The superintendent will establish procedures consistent with state guidelines for referring, assessing and selecting children of demonstrated achievement or potential ability in terms of general intellectual ability, academic aptitude and creative or productive thinking. These include prioritizing equitable identification of low-income students; use of multiple objective criteria and multiple pathways for identification; use of local norms, unless more restrictive than national norms; use of subjective measures only to support identification; and use of screening and assessment in the student's native language (if available) or nonverbal assessment.

Legal References:
RCW 28A.185.030   Programs—Authority of local school districts—Selection of students
WAC 392-170   Special service program—Highly capable students

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